

Message Text

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ACTION PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 SS-15 PM-03 INR-07 RSC-01 SP-02

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R 090805Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 819

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI US KE

SUBJECT: RELEASES ON PURPOSE OF CURRENT MOVEMENT OF
USS ENTERPRISE TASK FORCE

1. I NOTE IN WIRELESS FILE OF JANUARY 8 THAT CURRENT
MOVEMENT OF USS ENTERPRISE WAS DESCRIBED IN JANUARY 7
WHITE HOUSE PRESS BRIEFING AS "ROUTINE." THIS, IN MY
JUDGEMENT, IS BEST WAY TO DESCRIBE MOVEMENT INSOFAR
AS LOCAL POLITICAL SENSITIVITIES ARE CONCERNED AND
IS CONSISTENT WITH REQUEST WE HAVE MADE TO KENYAN
FOREIGN MINISTRY FOR PERMISSION FOR ENTERPRISE TO CALL
AT PORT OF MOMBASA.

2. HOWEVER, I NOTE IN SAME WIRELESS FILE THAT DEPARTMENT
OF DEFENSE PRESS SPOKESMAN DESCRIBED ENTERPRISE
TASK FORCE AS BEING ON "OPERATIONAL MISSION." WHILE
THIS MAY BE PERFECTLY ACCEPTABLE US NAVY TERMINOLOGY
FOR ROUTINE MOVEMENTS, I AM AFRAID IT COULD BE
INTERPRETED IN COUNTRIES SUCH AS KENYA AS HAVING SPECIAL
SIGNIFICANCE INCONSISTENT WITH ITS OFFICIAL POSTURE OF
NON-ALIGNMENT. I WOULD, THEREFORE, URGE -- UNLESS
THERE ARE CONTRARY POLICY CONSIDERATIONS -- THAT DEPARTMENT
ASK ALL US GOVERNMENT PRESS SPOKESMEN TO DESCRIBE
CURRENT MOVEMENTS OF THESE SHIPS AS "ROUTINE".

MARSHALL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, SHIP MOVEMENTS, USS ENTERPRISE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 09 JAN 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975NAIROB00214
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750008-0901
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750166/aaaacfri.tel
Line Count: 60
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION PRS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: STADIS
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <26 AUG 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <27 AUG 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RELEASES ON PURPOSE OF CURRENT MOVEMENT OF USS ENTERPRISE TASK FORCE
TAGS: MILI, PINR, US, KE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006